

## **MEETING RECORD**

**NAME OF GROUP:** Urban Design Committee

**DATE, TIME AND**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, November 2, 2005, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Members: Mike Eckert, JoAnne Kissel, Third World Oforah, Dennis Scheer and Scott Sullivan; (Gordon Scholz and Kim Todd absent).

Others: Tom Leikam and Mary Anne Wells (Olsson Associates); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth of the Planning Department.

**STATED PURPOSE  
OF MEETING:**

Regular Urban Design Committee Meeting

Chair Scheer called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

### **Approval of meeting notes of October 5, 2005**

Eckert moved approval of the October 5, 2005 meeting notes, seconded by Kissel. Motion carried 4-0. Eckert, Kissel, Oforah and Scheer voting 'yes'; Scholz, Sullivan and Todd absent.

### **O Street Improvement Project, 42<sup>nd</sup> to 52<sup>nd</sup> Street (Olsson Associates)**

Tom Leikam of Olsson Associates began by giving an overview of the project. They are going to reconstruct O Street from 45<sup>th</sup> Street to 52<sup>nd</sup> Street. They will also reconstruct 48<sup>th</sup> Street from M Street to R Street. One of the big differences in this area is that there is very narrow existing right-of-way. The right-of-way west of 48<sup>th</sup> Street is only 78 feet wide. They are putting in a 6 lane street section into a narrow right-of-way. There is a 5 foot turf area, a 5 foot sidewalk and 2.5 feet beyond the sidewalk to place the light poles. There will be some retaining walls. They are proposing to use stained concrete retaining walls. Most of the walls are 30 inches or less, and the highest wall is 4.5-5 feet. There will be a railing on the walls that are 30 inches or higher. There are four areas along the median where they can do some plantings.

Wells stated that they met with Parks and Recreation about landscaping. They decided to use the same design as what has been done on the east portion of O Street. The plantings will include switchgrass, little bluestem, Patmore ash, gro-low sumac, and coralberry. There is also an opportunity for the businesses to do some plantings behind the retaining wall. Parks and Recreation will maintain the planting beds.

Oforah stated that it looks like it is going to be cohesive with what is further up on 66<sup>th</sup> Street. The emphasis will be on the islands.

Eckert asked if there will be banners. Leikam stated that banners are currently not in the budget, but that does not preclude a banner program.

Kissel stated that redevelopment will generate some tax increment financing (TIF) and asked how future improvements would integrate with this. Leikam stated that he does not think there will be any TIF money available for this project.

Oforah asked about the projected dates of the project. Leikam stated that the project will begin in March 2006 with completion by Thanksgiving 2006. They will close O Street and the east side of 48<sup>th</sup> Street, and traffic will be detoured. There are currently improvements being done on R Street to facilitate that. There is also going to be a new water main put in on O Street west of 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, which will run concurrently with this O Street project.

Oforah stated that he likes the grasses and the other landscape elements.

Kissel moved approval of the project, seconded by Eckert. Motion carried 5-0. Eckert, Kissel, Oforah, Sullivan and Scheer voting 'yes'; Scholz and Todd absent.

### **Miscellaneous**

There was no discussion on this agenda item.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

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